# REPORT OF THE AUDIT OF THE BULLITT COUNTY SHERIFF'S SETTLEMENT - 2007 TAXES

For The Period May 1, 2007 Through April 30, 2008



# CRIT LUALLEN AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

www.auditor.ky.gov

105 SEA HERO ROAD, SUITE 2 FRANKFORT, KY 40601-5404 TELEPHONE 502.573.0050 FACSIMILE 502.573.0067

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

# AUDIT EXAMINATION OF THE BULLITT COUNTY SHERIFF'S SETTLEMENT - 2007 TAXES

# For The Period May 1, 2007 Through April 30, 2008

The Auditor of Public Accounts has completed the audit of the Sheriff's Settlement - 2007 Taxes for Bullitt County Sheriff for the period May 1, 2007 through April 30, 2008. We have issued an unqualified opinion on the financial statement taken as a whole. Based upon the audit work performed, the financial statement is presented fairly in all material respects.

# **Financial Condition:**

The Sheriff collected taxes of \$40,564,283 for the districts for 2007 taxes, retaining commissions of \$1,137,469 to operate the Sheriff's office. The Sheriff distributed taxes of \$39,296,032 to the districts for 2007 taxes. Taxes of \$320 are due to the districts from the Sheriff and a refund of \$9 is due to the Sheriff from a taxing district.

## **Deposits:**

The Sheriff's deposits as of November 8, 2007 were exposed to custodial credit risk as follows:

• Uncollateralized and Uninsured \$4,837,597

The Sheriff's deposits were covered by FDIC insurance and a properly executed collateral security agreement, but the bank did not adequately collateralize the Sheriff's deposits in accordance with the security agreement.

<u>CONTENTS</u> PAGE

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT	
SHERIFF'S SETTLEMENT - 2007 TAXES	
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENT	
REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON	
COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL	
STATEMENT PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS1	1



# CRIT LUALLEN AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

To the People of Kentucky
Honorable Steven L. Beshear, Governor
Jonathan Miller, Secretary
Finance and Administration Cabinet
Honorable Melanie Roberts, Bullitt County Judge/Executive
Honorable Donald Tinnell, Bullitt County Sheriff
Members of the Bullitt County Fiscal Court

## **Independent Auditor's Report**

We have audited the Bullitt County Sheriff's Settlement - 2007 Taxes for the period May 1, 2007 through April 30, 2008. This tax settlement is the responsibility of the Bullitt County Sheriff. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on this financial statement based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, the standards applicable to financial audits contained in Government Auditing Standards issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, and the Audit Guide for Sheriff's Tax Settlements issued by the Auditor of Public Accounts, Commonwealth of Kentucky. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statement is free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statement. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

As described in Note 1, the Sheriff's office prepares the financial statement on a prescribed basis of accounting that demonstrates compliance with the modified cash basis, which is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statement referred to above presents fairly, in all material respects, the Bullitt County Sheriff's taxes charged, credited, and paid for the period May 1, 2007 through April 30, 2008, in conformity with the modified cash basis of accounting.

In accordance with <u>Government Auditing Standards</u>, we have also issued our report dated September 26, 2008 on our consideration of the Sheriff's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to



TELEPHONE 502.573.0050

To the People of Kentucky
Honorable Steven L. Beshear, Governor
Jonathan Miller, Secretary
Finance and Administration Cabinet
Honorable Melanie Roberts, Bullitt County Judge/Executive
Honorable Donald Tinnell, Bullitt County Sheriff
Members of the Bullitt County Fiscal Court

provide an opinion on the internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with <u>Government Auditing Standards</u> and should be considered in assessing the results of our audit.

Respectfully submitted,

Crit Luallen

Auditor of Public Accounts

September 26, 2008

# BULLITT COUNTY DONALD TINNELL, SHERIFF SHERIFF'S SETTLEMENT - 2007 TAXES

For The Period May 1, 2007 Through April 30, 2008

Special

		Special		
Charges	County Taxes	Taxing Districts	School Taxes	State Taxes
Real Estate	\$ 3,736,945	\$ 6,690,515	\$ 20,412,561	\$ 4,985,444
Tangible Personal Property	307,503	695,642	1,069,493	739,027
Fire Protection	522	,	_,,	, , - = ,
Increases Through Exonerations	1,663	2,996	8,952	2,621
Omitted Taxes	25,286	46,637	314,684	,
Franchise Taxes	119,599	195,200	489,147	
Distilled Spirits Taxes	243,208	485,082	896,628	
Additional Billings	2,483	4,151	12,483	3,126
Sold to Finance Cabinet				1,509
Limestone, Sand and				
Mineral Reserves	1,182	2,240	6,454	1,575
Bank Franchises	126,910			
Penalties	24,947	43,186	135,010	33,245
Adjusted to Sheriff's Receipt	(24)	(21)	(128)	(37)
Gross Chargeable to Sheriff	4,590,224	8,165,628	23,345,284	5,766,510
Credits				
Exonerations	66,850	111,360	269,948	166,052
Discounts	72,426	128,180	364,159	91,460
Delinquents:				
Real Estate	524	1,026	2,862	699
Tangible Personal Property	3,591	5,931	12,490	5,675
Franchise Taxes	23	27_	80	
Total Credits	143,414	246,524	649,539	263,886
Taxes Collected	4,446,810	7,919,104	22,695,745	5,502,624
Less: Commissions *	189,277	213,477	500,561	234,154
Taxes Due	4,257,533	7,705,627	22,195,184	5,268,470
Taxes Paid	4,201,018	7,691,543	22,156,609	5,246,862
Refunds (Current and Prior Year)	56,515	13,774	38,574	21,608
Due Districts or (Refund Due Sheriff)		**		
as of Completion of Audit	\$ 0	\$ 310	\$ 1	\$ 0
as of Completion of Audit	Ψ	Ψ 310	Ψ 1	Ψ

<sup>\*</sup> And \*\* See Next Page

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this financial statement.

BULLITT COUNTY DONALD TINNELL, SHERIFF SHERIFF'S SETTLEMENT - 2007 TAXES For The Period May 1, 2007 Through April 30, 2008 (Continued)

## \* Commissions:

10% on \$ 10,000 4.25% on \$ 14,071,299 2.2% on \$ 22,695,745 1% on \$ 3,787,239

# \*\* Special Taxing Districts:

Mt. Washington Fire District	\$ 9
Nichols Fire District	(9)
Zoneton Fire District	 310

Due Districts or (Refund Due Sheriff) \$\frac{\$310}{}\$

# BULLITT COUNTY NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENT

April 30, 2008

## Note 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

### A. Fund Accounting

The Sheriff's office tax collection duties are limited to acting as an agent for assessed property owners and taxing districts. A fund is used to account for the collection and distribution of taxes. A fund is a separate accounting entity with a self-balancing set of accounts. Fund accounting is designed to demonstrate legal compliance and to aid financial management by segregating transactions related to certain government functions or activities.

## B. Basis of Accounting

The financial statement has been prepared on a modified cash basis of accounting. Basis of accounting refers to when charges, credits, and taxes paid are reported in the settlement statement. It relates to the timing of measurements regardless of the measurement focus.

Charges are sources of revenue which are recognized in the tax period in which they become available and measurable. Credits are reductions of revenue which are recognized when there is proper authorization. Taxes paid are uses of revenue which are recognized when distributions are made to the taxing districts and others.

### C. Cash and Investments

At the direction of the fiscal court, KRS 66.480 authorizes the Sheriff's office to invest in the following, including but not limited to, obligations of the United States and of its agencies and instrumentalities, obligations and contracts for future delivery or purchase of obligations backed by the full faith and credit of the United States, obligations of any corporation of the United States government, bonds or certificates of indebtedness of this state, and certificates of deposit issued by or other interest-bearing accounts of any bank or savings and loan institution which are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) or which are collateralized, to the extent uninsured, by any obligation permitted by KRS 41.240(4).

## Note 2. Deposits

The Bullitt County Sheriff maintained deposits of public funds with depository institutions insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) as required by KRS 66.480(1)(d). According to KRS 41.240(4), the depository institution should pledge or provide sufficient collateral which, together with FDIC insurance, equals or exceeds the amount of public funds on deposit at all times. In order to be valid against the FDIC in the event of failure or insolvency of the depository institution, this pledge or provision of collateral should be evidenced by an agreement between the Sheriff and the depository institution, signed by both parties, that is (a) in writing, (b) approved by the board of directors of the depository institution or its loan committee, which approval must be reflected in the minutes of the board or committee, and (c) an official record of the depository institution.

BULLITT COUNTY NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENT April 30, 2008 (Continued)

Note 2. Deposits (Continued)

Custodial Credit Risk - Deposits

Custodial credit risk is the risk that in the event of a depository institution failure, the Sheriff's deposits may not be returned. The Sheriff does not have a deposit policy for custodial credit risk but rather follows the requirements of KRS 41.240(4). As of April 30, 2008, all deposits were covered by FDIC insurance or a properly executed collateral security agreement. However, as of November 8, 2007, public funds were exposed to custodial credit risk because the bank did not adequately collateralize the Sheriff's deposits in accordance with the security agreement.

• Uncollateralized and Uninsured \$4,837,597

Note 3. Tax Collection Period

The real and personal property tax assessments were levied as of January 1, 2007. Property taxes were billed to finance governmental services for the year ended June 30, 2008. Liens are effective when the tax bills become delinquent. The collection period for these assessments was September 20, 2007 through April 30, 2008.

Note 4. Interest Income

The Bullitt County Sheriff earned \$107,288 as interest income on 2007 taxes. The Sheriff was in substantial compliance with his statutory responsibility regarding interest.

Note 5. Sheriff's 10% Add-On Fee

The Bullitt County Sheriff collected \$210,739 of 10% add-on fees allowed by KRS 134.430(3). This amount was used to operate the Sheriff's office.

Note 6. Advertising Costs And Fees

The Bullitt County Sheriff collected \$18,905 of advertising costs and fees allowed by KRS 424.330(1) and KRS 134.440(2). The advertising fees were used to operate the Sheriff's office.

Note 7. Unrefundable Duplicate Payments And Unexplained Receipts Should Be Escrowed

The Sheriff should deposit any unrefundable duplicate payments and unexplained receipts in an interest-bearing account. KRS 393.090 states that after three years, if the funds have not been claimed, they are presumed abandoned, and abandoned funds are required to be sent to the Kentucky State Treasurer according to KRS 393.110. For the 2007 tax year, the Sheriff had \$9,705 in unrefundable duplicate payments and unexplained receipts.

BULLITT COUNTY NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENT April 30, 2008 (Continued)

Note 8. Tax Escrow Accounts

The Sheriff has deposited unrefundable duplicate payments and unexplained receipts in interest-bearing accounts. The Sheriff's escrowed amounts were as follows:

2005 Tax Year Surplus	\$3,597
2006 Tax Year Surplus	\$2,495



REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON
COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL
STATEMENT PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARD



# CRIT LUALLEN AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

The Honorable Melanie Roberts, Bullitt County Judge/Executive Honorable Donald Tinnell, Bullitt County Sheriff Members of the Bullitt County Fiscal Court

> Report On Internal Control Over Financial Reporting And On Compliance And Other Matters Based On An Audit Of The Financial Statement Performed In Accordance With Government Auditing Standards

We have audited the Bullitt County Sheriff's Settlement - 2007 Taxes for the period May 1, 2007 through April 30, 2008, and have issued our report thereon dated September 26, 2008. The Sheriff prepares his financial statement in accordance with a basis of accounting other than generally accepted accounting principles. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in Government Auditing Standards issued by the Comptroller General of the United States.

# Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit, we considered the Bullitt County Sheriff's internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statement, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Sheriff's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Sheriff's internal control over financial reporting.

A control deficiency exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent or detect misstatements on a timely basis. A significant deficiency is a control deficiency, or combination of control deficiencies, that adversely affects the entity's ability to initiate, authorize, record, process, or report financial data reliably in accordance with the modified cash basis of accounting such that there is more than a remote likelihood that a misstatement of the entity's financial statement that is more than inconsequential will not be prevented or detected by the entity's internal control.

A material weakness is a significant deficiency, or combination of significant deficiencies, that results in more than a remote likelihood that a material misstatement of the financial statement will not be prevented or detected by the entity's internal control.

Our consideration of internal control over financial reporting was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and would not necessarily identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be significant deficiencies or material weaknesses. We did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that we consider to be material weaknesses, as defined above.





Report On Internal Control Over Financial Reporting And On Compliance And Other Matters Based On An Audit Of The Financial Statement Performed In Accordance With Government Auditing Standards (Continued)

# **Compliance And Other Matters**

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Bullitt County Sheriff's Settlement -2007 Taxes for the period May 1, 2007 through April 30, 2008, is free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit and, accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under Government Auditing Standards.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of management, the Bullitt County Fiscal Court, and the Department for Local Government and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Respectfully submitted,

Crit Luallen

Auditor of Public Accounts

September 26, 2008